

to Hurricane Katrina. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. has contributed \$17 million to relief efforts and donated 19 vacant facilities for use by relief agencies.

After the storm made landfall, the company immediately dispatched pre-positioned trucks to the devastated region bearing \$3 million worth of emergency supplies. In addition, Wal-Mart employees personally donated over \$9 million.

To quote *Fortune* magazine, "The world's biggest company flexed its massive distribution muscle to deliver vital supplies to victims of Hurricane Katrina."

It was this distribution muscle that provided relief to the hardest hit areas. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and its employees have earned our respect and our heartfelt thanks.

Mr. Speaker, there are other companies, perhaps not as large, that contributed in quiet, unheralded ways to Hurricane Katrina relief.

One additional company I would like to highlight is EADS, a European aerospace and defense firm that has recently chosen to open a facility in Mobile, Alabama, my home town.

In the chaotic days immediately following landfall of Hurricane Katrina, two EADS helicopters flew dangerous missions to rescue stranded victims, transport medical personnel, and deliver critical supplies to the Gulf Coast, stopping only to load, unload, and refuel.

EADS also coordinated with Airbus to deliver 23 tons of blankets, cots, tents and other items donated by the United Kingdom and France. The aid was flown onboard the Airbus A300-600ST cargo jetliner, also known as the Beluga, from Europe to Brookley Field in Mobile, Alabama.

In addition to the rescue and aid missions, EADS built a mobile medical rescue station in Long Beach, Mississippi. EADS, the German government, and Airbus coordinated to move the 12-ton medical rescue station from Frankfurt to Atlanta. Once in Atlanta, the Airbus Beluga moved it to Mississippi. The rescue station is staffed by 38 doctors and treats approximately 150 patients a day, handling everything from routine immunizations to surgical procedures.

In this time of such extreme adversity for the people of the Gulf Coast, the people of EADS truly came to our aid. I am humbled by their dedication and commitment to help in the recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly grateful to the national and international corporations that made generous contributions in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. I have singled out two for our well-deserved thanks, and I am glad to call them neighbors.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED

#### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 9, 2005*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all the dedicated men and women who have served, and those who continue to serve and protect this great Nation.

Veterans Day is a day of remembrance and rededication. We pause to remember the noble service and great sacrifices of those who have worn our Nation's uniform. And we

rededicate ourselves, in the words of President Lincoln, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle."

As our Nation is at war, we look to the brave mothers, fathers, sons and daughters that have answered the call to defend us. With courage and character, American soldiers continue to put themselves on the line to defend our freedom, and so many have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

On this Veterans Day, let us remember the service of our veterans, and let us renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free.

On the battlefield, the military pledges to leave no soldier behind. As a nation, let it be our pledge that when they return home, we leave no veteran behind. As more veterans return home from the battlefield, let us honor the service of all veterans, young and old, that have stood guard and fought so bravely to ensure our freedom. Our Nation must provide sufficient access to healthcare, adequate benefits, and the supplemental resources our veterans were promised and so dearly need. We owe our heroes no less.

Today and every day, the prayers of the American people are with those who wear our country's uniform. They serve a great cause and they follow a great tradition, handed down to them by America's greatest heroes, our veterans. Veterans from every era are the finest of citizens. We owe them the life we know today. They command the respect of the American people, and they have our everlasting gratitude.

May God bless our troops. May God bless our veterans and their families. And may God bless the United States of America.

#### A TRIBUTE TO RON DOWNS

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 9, 2005*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lieutenant Ron Downs of Fresno, California. Mr. Downs was a respected member of the Fresno police department. He passed away Monday, October 31st, 2005 of a heart attack; he was three weeks away from retirement.

Mr. Downs was sworn as a police officer in July 1, 1967, at the young age of 22. He worked as a lieutenant and commander of the special investigations bureau, for the department's narcotics unit. He previously was commander of the internal affairs bureau. At the time of Mr. Downs' death, he was one of the longest-serving active officers in the department.

Mr. Downs worked tirelessly on behalf of our community for 38 years as a member of the police force. On any given day, he was willing to sacrifice his own safety to protect others. Mr. Downs was an exemplary citizen; his contributions to our community will be long lived.

Mr. Downs is survived by his wife, Carolyn. He is also survived by his son, Kenneth Downs; his daughter, Kris Loughney; his wife's son, Michael Dick; three brothers; and five grandchildren. The community of Fresno is

saddened by his passing and I would like to extend my condolences to his family.

#### HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANITA BOERI 93 YEAR OLD WORLD WAR II MARINE VETERAN

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 9, 2005*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the many accomplishments of Anita Boeri, whose lifetime of service to her family and country is cause for celebration and honor this Veterans' Day.

Anita Boeri was born on July 6, 1912 to Louise and Rinaldo Boeri in the Italian enclave of East Harlem, NYC. After graduating from Erasmus Hall High School, Ms. Boeri attended Pratt Institute—the School of Home Economics in Brooklyn, NY—obtaining a degree as a dietitian. She also completed courses at the School of Business in Brooklyn.

After the outbreak of World War II, when the U.S. Marine Corps called for female volunteers, Anita Boeri applied and was accepted to the "Free a Marine to Fight" program as enlisted personnel on September 22, 1943. Her active duty began on November 30, 1943 with a trip to Camp LeJeune, New River, NC for basic training boot camp. In January of 1944, Ms. Boeri was a member of the first contingent of the Women's Reserve Battalion to arrive on Parris Island, South Carolina. After a week of orientation, she was assigned clerical duties in the office of the Commanding General.

Anita Boeri was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and through her hard work and dedication, became a confidential clerk to Major General Clayton B. Vogel, Commanding General, Parris Island. Ms. Boeri was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps Women's Reserve on November 26, 1945.

Following her career of service to her country, Anita Boeri spent the next 35 years of her life caring for her family. She cared for her ailing father and mother as well as her uncle who lived in the apartment above her.

In 1998, Anita Boeri moved to Atria Senior Living in Huntington Station, NY. There she joined the community with enthusiasm, volunteering for various duties in the gift shop and keeping in touch with Atria residents who were hospitalized.

Mr. Speaker, this weekend it will be my great honor to present Ms. Boeri with two medals to recognize her achievements—the World War II Victory Medal and the American Campaign Medal. As Veterans' Day approaches, all Americans can look to the achievements of Anita Boeri as a model of commitment and service.

#### HONORING MR. JAMES BERTRAL GALLOWAY

#### HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 9, 2005*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Mr. James Bertral Galloway, who